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AWACS in an Arab-Israel War

Q: What would be the impact on an Israel-Arab war if the Arab forces had AWACS?

A: -- If the Saudis employed AEW aircraft in such a war, and if the Saudis had a detailed plan of cooperation with other Arabs, it would extend radar surveillance in support of air defense, counter air, and limited offensive (interdiction) operations. However, without procedures and, more important, equipment for interoperability and connectivity as well as intensive joint (inter-Arab) training in their use, its effectiveness would be limited. Even if these severe obstables were to be overcome, the primary contribution of Saudi AWACS would still be in defensive operations.